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A P P E A

TO THE

ADVERTISEMENT
P U B L I C

BY

J O H N R A M E Y.

No Argument like Matter of Fact is;
And We are best of all led to
Men's PRINCIPLES by what they do.

HUDIBRAE.

PRINTED in the YEAR 1760

ADVERTISEMENT.

WHEREAS Mr. FULLER has descended below his usual Character in his Reply to my Son Mr. RAMEY, in which I expected him either to disprove the Facts Mr. RAMEY had alledged, or to have made reasonable Concessions to him for having insulted and slandered him.

I hereby declare, that I resent the mean Arts with which Mr. FULLER endeavours to get rid of the Truth, by adding fresh Slander and Abuse to that which had provok'd Mr. RAMEY to write his Letter; That I think such Conduct an ungenerous Return for the Assistance he has had from me and my Family; and that unless the material Facts in Mr. RAMEY's Letter to Mr. FULLER had been proved false, I must think Mr. RAMEY justified for withdrawing from the Support of Mr. FULLER's Interest.

YARMOUTH,
January 18, 1760.

WM. BROWNE.



(1)

AN
APPEAL to the PUBLIC.

✱(•)✱ **R. FULLER** having thought it improper to address himself to me, in the Piece, which he calls a *Proper Reply* to my Letter, I shall write no more to him; but ✱(•)✱ shall address my Remarks upon his Reply to the impartial Judgment of the Public.

He undertook in an Advertisement, soon after the Publication of my Letter, to prove, that my Facts were *false, infamous, artful*, and I know not what else; and he staked *his whole Reputation, past and to come*, upon the Proof of this.

His Pamphlet is introduced in the same modest and decent way. He will *puff down this mighty Fabrick, the joint Labour of Falshood and Fallacy*; he will *dare* (Page 2.) *to take upon him to demonstrate every particular Charge to have no Existence in Truth, and every Conclusion to have no Existence in Reason.*

THESE are his Promises. In order to shew, how they are performed, it may be proper to lay before the Reader the Facts, which he admits. They happen to be the material ones, upon which I rested my Vindication.

He admits, " that he intended to offer himself a Candidate, before he was assured, *from me*, of my Assistance; (P. 7.)

A

THAT

" THAT I assisted him warmly ; (P. 11, 14, 15, and 20.)

" THAT he was obliged to me for it ; (P. 6, and 10.)

" THAT I was not under the least Obligation to him ; (P. 10.)

" THAT I recommended it to him to take the Management of
" his Interest into his own Hands ; *but it did not then suit his In-*
" *clination.* (P. 16.)

" THAT he confessed, he had no Right to my Assistance, longer
" than I was disposed to give it ; (P. 5.)

" THAT I declined an Offer for his Sake ; (P. 18, 19, and 20.)

" THAT I concurred in forwarding a Measure, which, it was
" thought, would render his Success infallible ; (P. 21, 22, 25.)

" THAT he opposed that Measure, and occasioned it to be laid
" aside ; (P. 22, 23, 24.)

" THAT, after I was *naturally* grown weary of his Contests, I
" ventured to propose a Scheme for satisfying him, in order to
" restore Peace to the Town ; (P. 31, 32.)

" THAT he declared he would keep up an Opposition, from
" Resentment, for the sake of reducing the Members, *to the Necessity*
" *of spending Money ;* (P. 17, 33.)

" THAT his Friends formed a Design to supplant me in the
" Corporation ; (P. 27, 29.)

" THAT I discovered from himself, that he not only knew of
" this, but undertook to open it to the then Mayor ; (P. 27.)

" THAT when I proposed to him the Scheme for satisfying him,
" he

“ he confessed to me, that he never had a Desire to succeed in the
“ Point, which my Friends and I had laboured to accomplish for
“ him; (P. 32.)

“ THAT upon discovering this, as well as his Concurrence in the
“ Scheme for supplanting me, I withdrew from his Cause; (P.
“ 17, and 29.)

“ THAT he resented this; slandered, and insulted me; and be-
“ trayed the Secrets, with which he had been intrusted by me;
“ (P. 5, 20, 34, and 38.)

THESE are the material Facts in my Letter, all which Mr. Fuller
admits to be true; and upon these I ground the Vindication of my
Conduct, in *withdrawing from his Interest*.

THE rest are only Circumstances, which if the main Facts had
been false, it was not worth his while to attack; and which, as he
admits the main Facts to be true, it is hardly worth my while to
defend.

BUT tho' he leaves my material Facts in their full Force, he is
pleased to make Objections to some Circumstances of them, not
very essential indeed, but such, as he thought might be striking
enough, to justify him, in boldly impeaching my Veracity. It
therefore becomes me to consider these.

I had affirmed, that I did not persuade him to stand, “ but was
“ first solicited by him for my Vote.”

HE acknowledges, (P. 6.) that this is probably true; but lest
the Concession should dwell upon the Reader's Mind, he presents
before him various important Images; the Inauguration Feast of a
Mayor; the Transactions in the Hall; his own little Place of Re-
tirement, where he condescends to lead an unambitious Life; his
Supper at the House of no less a Man, than Mr. Benjamin Cooke,

and his ingenious Distinction between my Connexions and Dependants.

It might be expected, after all this Parade, that he would have proved, contrary to my Assertion, that I perswaded him to stand. But the Sum total of all this, is only, that he learnt by Hearsay, that I wished to see him a Candidate; and that when, in consequence of this Hearsay, he applied to me for my Vote, I referred him to my worthy Father-in-Law, Mr. *Browne*, before I would engage myself. (P. 8, and 9.) I had quite forgot this Circumstance. Mr. *Fuller* did well to remind me of it, for, with the Aid of that, he is obliged to leave the Reasoning upon my first Fact, in the very State, in which he found it.

His next Exception is to a Circumstance relating to the Offer, which I had, and which I declined for his Sake.

I had alledged, that he advised me to accept it. This he strongly denies. I solemnly affirm it to be true, and have this presumptive Evidence of the Truth of it, that several of my Friends, to whom I told it at the Time, recollect my mentioning the Circumstance of Mr. *Fuller's* having advised me to accept.

BUT tho' I can safely hazard the Credit of this Fact upon the Comparison of Mr. *Fuller's* Character and mine; yet I must observe, that the Fact itself is not material. My Sincerity in Supporting his Interest is clearly proved by what he admits, "that I declined that Offer, and rejected another, which I had forgot." (P. 15, and 19.)

He assigns other Motives for this. But it is hardly fair, without strong Proof, to impute Men's Actions to different Motives from those, which they profess; and it seems ungrateful in this Case, because the Offer was declined for his Sake; and particularly the Reason he assigns in P. 21: is known to be void of Truth by many in this County.

THAT

THAT I concurred in forwarding a Measure, which might render his Success infallible, and that he opposed that Measure, till it was laid aside, was alledged by me, as a farther Evidence of my Zeal in his Cause. He does not deny either of the Assertions.

BUT there was unfortunately a little Inconsistency in his Conduct, which seems to distress him. He had been made an Honorary Freeman, in one Place, and had declared such a Measure unconstitutional in another.

I happened to invert the Order of his Inconsistency, and, by mere Mistake, to say, that he condemned it first, and accepted it after; whereas the Truth was, that he accepted it first, and condemned it after.

I do not envy him his Triumph upon this Mistake of mine. To him I know it is great Matter of Triumph; For Dates are very important things to Men, who are trifling enough, to keep a Memorandum of what passes in Company.

I was always above this contemptible Accuracy of little Minds, and would rather commit a Mistake in Memory, upon which nothing material depends, than impose Caution and Reserve upon the Company I keep, by being known to record their Words, the Time when, and the Place where they were spoken.

BUT the Cases, he tells us, are not parallel. The Freeman at *Ipswich* were made at the Great Court, by the whole Body of Freemen; whereas those at *Yarmouth* were to be made by the Corporation.

WILL he say, that this was his Constitutional Objection? If it was, I am afraid it was not a sensible Objection. The Question was not, who had a Right in either Place, to create the Freeman? The Usage of each Place must determine that. The Question was, whether the End and Design of making them was Constitutional?

etional? And this Question equally affected the Scheme in both Places, for the End and Design of it was the same in both.

I will not say, what was the real and professed End of this Measure; it was an End, which Mr. *Fuller* thought fit to concur in at *Ipswich*, whatever it was.

I would allow him as much Merit, as he pleases, in opposing it at *Yarmouth*, If I knew how to deliver him from the Inconsistency; for he cannot dispute the Fact, that he accepted of the Freedom at *Ipswich*, without one Constitutional Pretence; and he boasts of having opposed and defeated the same Measure at *Yarmouth*, upon Constitutional Grounds.

If I were, like him, disposed to find out Motives, I might possibly discover one, at the Top of Page 25 in his Pamphlet, where we have these Words;

“ WHEN once this Body of Gentlemen had acquired this Connection with the Town, it is not unlikely, some amongst them might have been induced to go one Step farther, and even accepted of becoming Candidates; to which their Property, and Character, would have given them so just a Title.”

I alledged, that Mr. *Fuller* first violated the Friendship between him and me; and I proved this from his Conduct, with respect to the Endeavours of his Friends to supplant me in the Corporation.

He bestows three Pages upon this Subject, in which, one would imagine, he had denied the Fact. He actually does deny it at first; but he confirms it afterwards, (P. 27. and 28.) If I had done so, he would have called it Effrontery. I am content to call it by the more gentle Name of Inaccuracy.

He says he never entered into a Conversation upon the Subject with any one; and, in the same Page, confesses all I charge him with

With that he went to the then Mayor, to acquaint him with the Design; (P. 27.)

In order to keep this Contradiction out of Sight, he enters into a Panegyrick upon the Person, who was proposed to be elected, in Opposition to me; (P. 28, 29.)

He tells us, the Gentleman is one of his oldest Friends, and sets off his Character to the best Advantage: I will not dispute that Gentleman's Merit. Mr. *Fuller* very gravely denies, that he compared him to a Wisp of Straw, and thinks a Faggot of Furze a more elegant Comparison.

I am indifferent, which of them he thinks fit to apply to *his worthy old Friend*. It suffices for my Argument, that, by his own Confession, "he frankly owned to me, that the Gentleman was not likely to become a formidable Rival to me. (P. 29.)

If the Public should be curious to know, who the Gentleman is, of whom this honourable mention is made in Mr. *Fuller's* Pamphlet, it is, Mr. BRACEY TAYLOR.

I related, in my Letter, very frankly, the Treaty I had undertaken to negotiate, with a View to the Peace of this Town. He admits, that I did what I promised, in proposing to him an Offer, which I thought would be acceptable. (P. 30, and 31.)

I might not understand the most delicate Method of exciting his Attention to the Offer, tho' it seemed, at the Time, to operate in some Degree. It may appear too assuming in me to answer for another Man; tho' he was not in the least enraged at it then. I am sorry for any Circumstance in my Conduct, that offended his virtuous Pride; for I meant the whole Transaction, as the highest Act of Friendship to him; and he then thank'd me for it.

I thought it might be acceptable; and surely I had a Right to think

think. I am still of the same Opinion; for he does not deny, that he esteemed Favours from an Administration, which he condescends to approve, to be worth his Acceptance. And I am glad, that those Superiors of his, whom he takes Occasion to mention, are treated by him with so much Respect. It may have the good Effect, of keeping open a Door for Negotiation, tho' I should not have the Honour to be the Negotiator.

If I undervalued him, I wish him better Terms. But I hope, for his own Sake, he will not insist upon the Terms, which, I told him, neither would, nor could be accepted. I thought it too gross to name those Terms; and am astonished, that he should be so unguarded, as to explain them.

He confesses, that he wanted a Right of applying *Originally, to the Boards and Offices above*, for the Favours of the Administration to be granted to his Friends in *Yarmouth*, in common with others, *in the same Manner as those Gentlemen do.* (P. 34)

WITHOUT doubt, the Pretensions both of himself and his Friends are very great; but my full Powers were not so extensive, as to authorize me to promise, that the Gentlemen, thro' whose Hands these Favours pass, should resign their Interest to him; or that the Great Men at the Helm should think as highly of the Honour and Pleasure of corresponding with Mr. Fuller, as I did.

My Letter to him being a serious one, I did not name this Demand, lest it should have a ludicrous Appearance.

It was on this Occasion, that he dropped those memorable Words of his, which he had repeated so often, that he seems to wonder, they should be made an Article of Accusation against him. (P. 17, and 33.)

He charges me with being mistaken again in the Date. I cannot deny it, for I write from Memory. It is sufficient for me and my

my Argument, that the Words were spoken; and he amply confesses, that they were.

BUT mark the Distinction. He owns, that he said, "it was too late in Life for him to wish to be in Parliament, that it would alter his whole Plan, that his Affairs require OEconomy rather than Expence;" &c. (P. 32.) But all this, he tells us, was not meant of being Member for *Yarmouth*; and the only specious Reason he gives for asserting, that I misinterpret his Words, is, that our Conversation just then turned upon a Seat for some other Place.

I answer, that his Words were so general, that I could not apprehend them otherwise, than as meant of a Seat in Parliament in general, even if our Conversation had ended with those Words. They were besides more applicable to *Yarmouth*, than to any other Place, that could possibly be offered him; ours being particularly an inconvenient Borough to a Representative, who is past the Prime of Life, and whose Affairs require OEconomy rather than Expence.

BUT he knows, he has said the same Thing to me, and many others, at different Times; and I persist in declaring, that he said it to me, at that Time. Even in the very Act of denying it, with respect to this Town, he calls it a SACRIFICE, to comply with the Desire of his Friends to elect him. (P. 32.)

HIS Fear of succeeding at the Election in 1754, which he both acknowledges and denies in the same Page, is a farther Corroboration. He owns, he has confessed those Fears in a *laughing Manner*, and I only alledge, from his own Mouth, that he confessed them. Whether he laughed, or was serious, in his Confession, his Friends as well as Enemies will be inclined to think, that, whatever his Views were in being a *Candidate*, he must be privately of Opinion, that it was not worth his while to be a *Member*.

That all the material Facts, in my Letter, are left unhurt by Mr. Fuller; and I appeal to any candid Mind, whether so much of his Treatment of me, as he himself confesses, did not justify me, in withdrawing from the Interest of a Man, who appeared to me neither *likely*, nor *desirous*, to be the better for my Zeal in his Service.

My best and nearest Friend, Mr. Browne, whom he has wished to alienate from me, was convinced by my Letter, upon finding it confirmed by Mr. Fuller's Reply; and he did me the Honour to declare his Satisfaction in my Conduct, by a public manly Advertisement.

Mr. Fuller's contemptuous Treatment of me I despise. Any Man is capable of that. It gives him no real Superiority, and it leaves me at a Loss to discover, wherein his Superiority consists.

He has had a more liberal Education, than I; and I perceive some Specimen of it, in the elegant Flowers, Similies and Allusions of his Pamphlet. But, unless we suppose the coarse Language, here and there interspersed, to be mere Errors of the Press, one would suspect (had it not been known) that he had been obliged, by some Accident, to quit the Seat of Religion, Learning and Decency, before he had finished his Studies.

His positive Assertion, that I am not the Writer of my Letter to him, justifies me in saying, that he will assert more than he knows, and makes me very indifferent about what he asserts; I am not the only one who knows, that in this he asserts a Falshood.

He thinks it a Mortification to me, to propagate such an Opinion; and therefore labours at it so assiduously, that he has even proceeded to Outrages against the Person, whom he charges with writing it, and who cannot be hurt by any Charge of his. Are these the Feelings, which distinguish Real Gentlemen?

BUT I forgive him this and all his Rage, and acknowledge, that
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it is not unnatural in him, that I have been provoked to quit his Cause, and have been induced by the superior Merit of the Gentleman, whom he last opposed, to attach myself to that Gentleman's Interest, as well as the Interest of his honourable Colleague.

It is no wonder, Mr. Fuller is mortified; for a direct Preference of another is painful to Men; less conscious of their Greatness and Worth, than he appears to be. I am not fond of sneeringly retorting other Men's Words upon them, but I cannot forbear applying to that Gentleman the Passage in *Dryden*, which Mr. Fuller misquotes, and addressing it to Mr. Fuller;

Confess, proud Spirit,
(For I will have it from thy very Mouth,)
That better he deserved my Love, than thou.

I was not introduced to his Acquaintance by Mr. Fuller; nor did I ever want Mr. Fuller's Introduction to any Man's Acquaintance, having equal Pretensions with him, to the Notice of his and my Superiors.

As to the Sums I got by the Law Proceedings here, I got no more, than I had a Right to; and not so much as he would insinuate, when he artfully states the gross Sum, as if all had been my neat Profit. Those Law Proceedings were carried on for his Sake, and they were countenanced by him, not with his Money, but with his full Approbation, and his warmest Wishes.

I leave the Reader to judge, how generous it is in him, to oppose the little Profits, to which I had an undoubted Right, to the Sums expended by my Friends and me, in the Support of his Schemes.

He labours much to distinguish away the Obligation to Secrecy in Matters, which in their own Nature require it. I affirmed, that he promised me Secrecy; (which he no where denies,) and he

had not, he ought either to have kept the Secrets, or to have told me ingenuously at the Time, that he would not, or rather *could not* keep them.

BUT he pretends, that he was moved to reveal one of them, by some Neglect and Slight, which seemed to have been offered, to a worthy Gentleman elsewhere, in the Disposal of a Place to his Prejudice. I have the highest Regard for that Gentleman; but Mr. *Fuller's* Pretence is founded in two Presumptions, which are not perfectly clear to me. The first is, that Mr. *Fuller* is the Judge, in what manner the First Person in the County ought to conduct himself in the Disposal of his Favours; and the Second Presumption is, that Mr. *Fuller* enjoyed such a Friendship and Intimacy with the Gentleman, whom he thought thus slighted, as rendered it incumbent upon him, to communicate to that Gentleman the Secret. I will not believe either of these Presumptions, 'till I have it under Mr. *Fuller's* Hand.

BUT there is another Instance, foreign to this Part of my Subject, which shews a *Secret* to be an intolerable Burthen upon the Mind of Mr. *Fuller*. I need not name it, for we have more Instances in his Pamphlet.

He divulges a Conversation Levity, which, if true, argued the highest Confidence from me in him and the rest of the Company at the Time; and he has prevailed with a Gentleman, whom he describes as of the first Rank and Distinction in this Town, to appear in his Reply, as the Divulger of another private Conversation of mine.

It may serve to give him a true Opinion of that Friend of his, and to give the Public some Notion of the Zeal, with which Mr. *Fuller's* best Friends are attached to his Cause, if I declare, that the same Gentleman has expressed to me his Indifference about the Issue of Elections here, and only desired, that *we* might keep the Power of the Corporation in *our* own Hands.

"I see no Reason, why this Gentleman, and some others, are introduced in the Piece, unless it be a *good natured Railery* of the Author's, to communicate to his Neighbours the Flame, which had burnt his own Fingers.

The Defiance in Page 40, is rather too strong. Mr. Fuller's Words are,

"LET him produce *one single Instance*, of a Voter corrupted, threatened, persuaded to violate his Promise, &c. (or attempted or permitted to be so, as far as my Knowledge of such Matters could reach,) and I will give up all the Dispute between us, &c."

It happens unfortunately for Mr. Fuller, that I learnt from his own Mouth, that a Master of a Ship, a Freeman, intirely unacquainted with him, and to whom he owed not the least Obligation; before the first Election; on being solicited by Mr. Fuller for his V—; stipulated as a Preliminary, that he should give him a Suit of Colours for his Ship; to this Mr. Fuller submitted, and paid for them Four Pounds.

I have *selected* this Circumstance, for the Reader's Satisfaction, because I learnt it from Mr. Fuller; because, the *Present* was of so particular a Kind, that a Man carefull in his Minutes cannot have forgot it; because, it has since been confirmed to me, by the Ship Master; and because, Mr. Fuller stakes the Issue of the Dispute between Us *upon One single Instance*, &c.

I think, I have waded through all that is material in the Elaborate PROPER REPLY. He did well, to call it any Thing rather than an Answer, for it is not an ANSWER to my Letter. I am too weary of him, to enter into all the Particulars, of his Entrance into Life, that memorable *Æra*, which he delights to mention, his Character, and his Conduct, all which I leave to some future Historian of the present Times. I could write upon his Importance, 'till I draw Tears from his Eyes. But
though

though all his Friends can witness, that he has so much of the Man in him, as sometimes to drop a Tear; it appears from his Pamphlet, that he is not quite so manly, as to confess this innocent Infirmary.

I should here be disposed to take my Leave of the Reader, but there is something so grave in Mr. *Fuller's* Conclusion, that I cannot pass it by unnoticed.

AFTER having very civilly denied, that I have either a Principle, or the Idea of a Principle, he tells us, with great Humility, that Principles have always been the Motives to his Actions. To convince us of this, he specifies the three ruling Principles of his political Conduct.

THE first of these is, that a Parliament without Placemen best answers the Ends of our Constitution.

THE second, that the Parliamentary Interests of a Town are better intrusted to its Inhabitants or Neighbours, than to Strangers, however powerful in Family or Connections.

THE third, that the more frequent Elections are, the more uncorrupt Parliaments will be.

I am not at Leisure, to controvert any one of these Principles. They are foreign to the Dispute between Mr. *Fuller* and me. But as he denies me to have any Principle, he gives me a Right to ask him, whether he has *always, invariably*, kept up to these Principles of his?

IF, in any Part of his uniform Life, an Opportunity has offered of resigning his Interest to a Gentleman, of great Character, who filled an Office in Government, has Mr. *Fuller* in such a Case adhered inflexibly to his *first Principle*? Or has he cheerfully consented to yeild up his Pretensions, for one Turn at least, to such a Gentleman?

I would ask again, whether the Qualification, upon which Mr. Fuller lays so much stress, of being an Inhabitant or Neighbour, was always considered by him, as essential, or indispensable? Or whether he was not ready, in Opposition to the two great Families, who have furnished Representatives of this Town, for many Years past, and are distinguished in this County by their Rank, Fortune, and public Merit, (and without the Knowledge of his Friends,) to embrace such a Candidate, tho' he had not the Honour of being an Inhabitant of, or Neighbour to, this Town or County?

I do not blame Mr. Fuller's Conduct in this. I only ask these Questions. He knows best, what they mean, and he has given me occasion to ask them, by setting up his Principles, after denying me the Possession of any.

He has, in private, thrown out Hints of his being possessed of a Secret. I beg, that nothing I say may provoke him to divulge any Secret.

I believe him to be very sincere, in adopting the last Principle about the Frequency of Elections. For as his Ambition rises no higher, than to be a Candidate, doubtless annual Elections, would suit him much better, than Septennial.

BUT if he loves Saturnalia, I do not; and I must repeat what I hinted in my Letter to him, that, had I no other Motive for leaving him, the Object of his Ambition, when I discovered it, would be a sufficient Motive; for I must own, I am too proud to prostitute myself, in becoming the Dupe of an Ambition, so unworthy of him.

He might flatter himself with an Opinion, that his Opposition raised him to a Level with the Persons he opposed: and if this Little Vanity could have been gratified, without Mischief, and without our Concurrence, my Friends and I might have connived at it.

I am sorry to say these Things, for I know they will hurt him. But he provokes me to say more, than I am willing to throw out, even against so bitter an Enemy.

I hope, he will keep his Promise, of not writing again, better than he has kept his Promise, of convicting me of Falshood.

He will give me the Trouble of answering or replying, as often as he asserts publickly a single Fact concerning me, in which I know him to be mistaken.

I wish him Peace of Mind, and wish the Peace of this Town were consistent with his Peace of Mind.

I wish him Peace of Mind, and wish the Peace of this Town were consistent with his Peace of Mind.

YARMOUTH,

Feb. 25, 1769.

JOHN RAMEY.

F I N I S

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